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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Division of Cotton Marketing

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COTTON GRADE AND STAPLE REPORTS FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 21

The weekly report on Grade and Staple of cotton ginned in the States of Arkansas, Tennessee and Missouri, will be discontinued with that released today. Although considerable quantities of cotton are yet to be ginned in these states, especially in Missouri and Tennessee, interference in picking and snapping by heavy rains during the past week has practically stopped these operations. Due to this interference in harvesting and consequent slowing down of ginning, an insufficient number of samples is being received at the Memphis office on which to base an adequate report of cotton now coming on to the market.

During the week ending today, as is indicated by samples received and classed, 32 percent of the cotton now being ginned in Arkansas is Spotted or Yellow Tinged. In the Southern Ozarks Area of Arkansas, almost 47 percent has been on these two standards. In the Mississippi Bottoms about 39 percent has been on these standards. For Missouri during the week about 24 percent of the cotton has been Spotted or Yellow Tinged. In Tennessee during the week about 59 percent has been Spotted or Yellow Tinged, compared with an accumulated total of 14.8 to date for the season. The major portion of this Spotted and Yellow Tinged cotton in Tennessee is coming from the Sandy Coastal Plains District.

Staple lengths for Arkansas have fallen off badly during the week, 47.9 percent having been 15/16 compared with 23.7 percent in this length for an accumulated season total. Only 26.8 percent has been one inch in length during the week, compared with 40.3 percent for the season. In Missouri the staple results for the week are even worse than for Arkansas, 61.4 percent being 7/8 compared with 13.3 percent for the season; 13.9 percent has been 15/16 compared with the season's total of 40.3 percent, and 16.9 percent has been 1 inch in length compared with the season's total of 40.3 percent. Viewed from the standpoint of tenderability on cotton futures contracts, 10.3 percent has been untenderable during the week for Arkansas; 85.5 percent untenderable for Missouri and 10.3 percent untenderable for Tennessee. The accumulated totals of untenderable cotton for these states to date for the season are as follows: Arkansas 3.1 percent, Missouri 13.0 percent and Tennessee 4.5 percent. The rather heavy untenderable percentage for Missouri is due to very low grade cotton resulting from late season snaps and bollies.

